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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Labor Camp Officials in Birobidzhan/Action Barring Research on the History of the Autonomous Jewish Republic.

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THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION

1. "Two Soviet directors are in charge of a net of labor camps in the Birobidzhan area. They are (fnu) Polovcev and (fnu) Gorjunov. Both men work in the town of Khabarovsk. Their deputies are (fnu) Adaksin (political affairs) and (fnu) Babkin (disciplinary affairs). The administrative chiefs are (fnu) Afanasjev and (fnu) Borisov. The camps under the jurisdiction of these men are for Jewish prisoners.

2. "The Institute of Party History in Birobidzhan had since 1938 an archives' division. In January 1953, the local city authorities ordered the abolition of this division. The Archives' Division had been gathering material on the birth of the Jewish Autonomous Republic and on the pioneers who had initiated and executed the idea of creating such a Republic. The order to abolish the division was made at the same time that a number of Jewish archivists were accused of destroying certain documents. It is assumed that the Communists are trying to destroy any documents which may indicate the trend to change Birobidzhan into a punitive district reserved for Jews. Almost all the 'pioneers' have been disposed of during the last three years (prior to early 19[illegible]

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